

**Directorate of Intelligence
Office of Central Reference**

19 July 1984

NOTE FOR: Director of Data Processing

ATTENTION:

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FROM: Clarus W. Rice
Director of Central Reference

Attached is the OCR evaluation of the recent RECON GUARD prototype. If you need additional information, please contact on extension I have also forwarded a copy of this evaluation to the Directors of Security and Research and Development.

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18 JUL 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

FROM : Clarus W. Rice
Director of Central Reference

SUBJECT : Evaluation of RECON GUARD

1. This memorandum provides the evaluation of the RECON GUARD prototype by the Office of Central Reference.

Test

2. In preparation for the test of the RECON GUARD prototype, OCR:
- created a test data base of 2000 records extracted from the RECON file; these records, which were unclassified, were changed to resemble all types of classified and controlled documents; and the RECON software was modified to add a check sum field to each record in the test data base.
 - to provide some relief to the ORCON problem through GUARD (currently ORCON records are not released outside of CIA), a Yes-No field was added in January 1983 to all ORCON-controlled RECON records; the record is coded Yes if the ORCON document was originally disseminated to State, NSA and DIA; the record is coded No if the ORCON document was not originally disseminated to all three of these agencies or original dissemination cannot be determined. This indexing would enable these three agencies to receive a substantial number of current ORCON records that they do not now receive.
 - twenty queries were developed for the test data base to represent typical RECON queries involving the most frequently used fields of a RECON record and all the Boolean logical operators. These same twenty queries were used in test scenarios representing CIA, DIA, NSA and State requesters.

3. In the OCR part of the test, the 20 queries were run against the test data base through the GUARD prototype by the contractor. These same queries were run against the test data base through RECON by the Staff Assistant/Indexing Officer in OCR. The results of both were compared.

Evaluation

4. The RECON GUARD prototype did what it was expected to do: it did not release any records from the test data that it should not have. The GUARD, in effect, served as a check for the software screen developed as a canned query

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for each agency. It should be noted that the GUARD was queried only by the contractor, that the device is only a prototype, and that the data base was limited. A proposed data base of five years of records (1.5 million items) could pose a challenge to the GUARD device.

5. Even if an operational model of the GUARD proves as successful as the prototype, and the size of the data base poses no difficulty, two problems remain:

- the community interest in RECON retrieval of citations to CIA ORCON documents originally disseminated to them will not be satisfied. A number of these records (from January 1983 forward) would be available to State, NSA and DIA because of the Yes-No coding. These agencies, however, would not receive ORCON records earlier than January 1983, and other agencies would not receive any ORCON records. To index the dissemination of all ORCON documents, or to retrospectively index pre 1983 documents Yes-No, is costly and beyond the resources of OCR.
- the GUARD controls only the appropriate release of RECON records from the data base. What happens to these records once they enter a network such as COINS cannot be determined. This uncertainty, we feel, may limit OCR's ability to make ORCON records available outside CIA. OCR is only the intermediary; the document originators have the final say on their release.

This memorandum is Unclassified.

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[Redacted Signature]

Clarus W. Rice

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